Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A DNA construct <u>for providing neural stem cells that express the</u> <u>SV40 large T antigen, said construct</u> comprising nucleotides -507 to + 1 of the human FGF1B promoter, operably linked to a sequence encoding the SV40 large T antigen, wherein nucleotides -507 to +1 of the human FGF1B promoter are the same as nucleotide 43 to nucleotide 550 of SEQ ID NO. 2.

13. (currently amended) The DNA construct of claim 12 wherein the promoter comprises nucleotides -540 to +31 of the human ~~FGF 1B~~ <u>FGF1B</u> promoter, <u>and</u> wherein nucleotides -540 to +31 of the human FGF1B promoter are the same as nucleotide 10 to nucleotide 580 of SEQ ID NO. 2.

14. (original) The DNA construct of claim 12 wherein the SV40 large T antigen encoding sequence comprises an intron within said sequence.

Claims 15-36 (canceled)

37. (currently amended) A DNA construct <u>for providing neural stem cells, said construct</u> comprising the mouse FGF1B promoter operably linked to a sequence encoding the SV40 large T antigen, wherein the sequence of the mouse FGF1B promoter is set forth in ~~GenBank Accession No. U67609~~ SEQ ID NO. 3.

38. (new) A DNA construct for obtaining neural stem cells consisting of nucleotides -507 to + 1 of the human FGF1B promoter, operably linked to a sequence encoding the SV40 large T antigen, wherein nucleotides -507 to +1 of the human FGF1B promoter are the same as nucleotide 43 to nucleotide 550 of SEQ ID NO. 2.

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39.   (new)   A DNA construct for obtaining neural stem cells consisting of nucleotides -507 to + 31 of the human FGF1B promoter, operably linked to a sequence encoding the SV40 large T antigen, wherein nucleotides -507 to +31 of the human FGF1B promoter are the same as nucleotide 10 to nucleotide 580 of SEQ ID NO. 2.